

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system comprising:

a special price exclusive apparatus ~~which is set in advance so as to~~ consume power at a special price;

[[a]]power management means ~~for~~ detecting that a user is utilizing said special price exclusive apparatus and ~~for~~ measuring the amount of power consumed by said special price exclusive apparatus in the case that ~~the~~ after a user has purchased and is utilizing said special price exclusive apparatus; and

[[a]]fee charging means ~~for~~ charging [[a]]an added fee for said measured amount of power consumed, the added fee charged being that makes an addition to thea conventional fee,

wherein at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] said added fee is paid by an electric power provider to the manufacturer that has sold said special price exclusive apparatus, the manufacturer being separate from the electric power provider.

2. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system comprising:

a special price exclusive apparatus ~~which is set in advance so as to~~ consume power at a special price;

[[a]]power management means ~~for~~ detecting that a user is utilizing said special price exclusive apparatus and ~~for~~ measuring the amount of power consumed by said special price exclusive apparatus in the case that ~~the~~ after a user has purchased and is utilizing said special price exclusive apparatus; and

[[a]]fee charging means ~~for~~ charging [[a]]an added fee for said measured amount of power consumed, the added fee charged being that makes an addition to thea conventional fee,

wherein ~~at least the entirety of, or a part of~~[[,]] said added fee is paid by an electric power provider to the manufacturer that has sold said special price exclusive apparatus, the manufacturer being separate from the electric power provider;

said special price exclusive apparatus has an operational means for carrying out a predetermined operation by consuming said power and

an energy saving control means for carrying out energy saving control of said operational means; and

said energy saving control means ~~also~~ functions as said power management means.

3. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system comprising:

a special price exclusive apparatus ~~which is set in advance so as to~~ consume power at a special price;

[[a]] power management means ~~for~~ detecting that a user is utilizing said special price exclusive apparatus and ~~for~~ measuring the amount of power consumed by said special price exclusive apparatus in the case that ~~the~~ after a user has purchased and is utilizing said special price exclusive apparatus;

an energy saving control means for carrying out energy saving control of said special price exclusive apparatus; and

[[a]] fee charging means ~~for~~ charging [[a]] an added fee for said measured amount of power consumed, the added fee charged being that makes an addition to the conventional fee,

wherein:

~~at least the entirety of, or a part of~~[[,]] said added fee is paid by an electric power provider to the manufacturer that has sold said special price exclusive apparatus, the manufacturer being separate from the electric power provider; and

said energy saving control means ~~also~~ functions as said power management means.

4. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 3, wherein:

in the case that the manufacturer that has sold said energy saving control means is different from the manufacturer that has sold said special price exclusive apparatus,

at least~~the entirety of, or~~ a part of[[,]] said added fee is paid to the manufacturer that has sold said energy saving control means and/or to the manufacturer that has sold said special price exclusive apparatus.

5. (Original) A power consumption system according to Claim 1, wherein said power management means holds information concerning the degree of energy savings of said special price exclusive apparatus and said fee charging means determines the amount of additional charge to be added based on said information concerning the degree of energy savings.

6. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 2, wherein said power management means holds information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and/or information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means and said fee charging means determines said amount of additional charge based on said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and[[/or]] said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means.

7. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 3, wherein said power management means holds information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and[[/or]] information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means and said fee charging means determines said amount of additional charge based on said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and/or said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means.

8. (Original) A power consumption system according to any one of Claims 5 to 7, comprising an automatic measurement means for preparing measurement information by adding the amount of power consumption measured by said power management means and said information concerning the degree of energy savings and for making a notification of said prepared measurement information to said fee charging means via a network.

9. (Original) A power consumption system according to Claim 8, wherein said network is a distribution line conveyance, the Internet, an exclusive line, a telephone line or a wireless means.

10. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 9, wherein:

said special price exclusive apparatus, said power management means and said automatic measurement means are installed at the home of said user; and

said fee charging means is installed in a management center of the electric[[a]]
power company provider.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system comprising:

a mode selectable apparatus where either a special price mode that consumes power at a special price or a conventional price mode that consumes power at a conventional price are selectable at the time of purchase by a user;

[[a]]power management means ~~for~~ detecting that [[a]]the user is utilizing said mode selectable apparatus in said special price mode and ~~for~~ measuring the amount of power consumed by said mode selectable apparatus ~~in the case that said user has purchased said mode selectable apparatus and has selected said special price mode and is utilizing said mode selectable apparatus; and~~

[[a]] fee charging means ~~for~~ charging [[a]]an added fee for said measured amount of power consumed, the added fee charged being~~that makes an additional charge to the~~
conventional fee in the case that said mode selectable apparatus is utilized in said special price mode,

wherein at least~~the entirety of, or a part of~~[[a]] said added fee is paid by an electric power provider to the manufacturer that has sold said mode selectable apparatus, the manufacturer being separate from the electric power provider.

13. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system comprising:

a mode selectable apparatus where either a special price mode that consumes power at a special price or a conventional price mode that consumes power at a conventional price are selectable at the time of purchase by a user;

[[a]]power management means ~~for~~ detecting that [[a]]~~the~~ user is utilizing said mode selectable apparatus in said special price mode and ~~for~~ measuring the amount of power consumed by said mode selectable apparatus ~~in the case that said user has purchased said mode selectable apparatus and has selected said special price mode and is utilizing said mode selectable apparatus; and~~

[[a]]fee charging means ~~for~~ charging [[a]]an added fee for said measured amount of power consumed, the added fee charged being that makes an additional charge to the a conventional fee in the case that said mode selectable apparatus is utilized in said special price mode,

wherein:

at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] said added fee is paid by an electric power provider to the manufacturer that has sold said mode selectable apparatus, the manufacturer being separate from the electric power provider;

said mode selectable apparatus has an operational means for carrying out a predetermined operation by consuming said power and

an energy saving control means for carrying out energy saving control of said operational means; and

said energy saving control means also functions as said power management means.

14. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system comprising:

a mode selectable apparatus where either a special price mode that consumes power at a special price or a conventional price mode that consumes power at a conventional price are selectable at the time of purchase by a user;

an energy saving control means for carrying out energy saving control of said mode selectable apparatus;

[[a]]power management means ~~for~~ detecting that [[a]]the user is utilizing said mode selectable apparatus in said special price mode and ~~for~~ measuring the amount of power consumed by said mode selectable apparatus ~~in the case that said user has purchased said mode selectable apparatus and has selected said special price mode and is utilizing said mode selectable apparatus; and~~

[[a]]fee charging means ~~for~~ charging [[a]]an added fee for said measured amount of power consumed, the added fee charged being that makes an additional charge to thea conventional fee in the case that said mode selectable apparatus is utilized in said special price mode,

wherein:

at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] said added fee is paid by an electric power provider to the manufacturer that has sold said mode selectable apparatus, the manufacturer being separate from the electric power provider; and

said energy saving control means also functions as said power management means.

15. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 14, wherein, in the case that the manufacturer that has sold said energy saving control means is different from the manufacturer that has sold said mode selectable apparatus, when said mode selectable apparatus is utilized in said special price mode,

at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] said added fee is paid to the manufacturer that has sold said energy saving control means and/or to the manufacturer that has sold said mode selectable apparatus.

16. (Original) A power consumption system according to Claim 12, wherein said power management means holds information concerning the degree of energy savings of said mode selectable apparatus and said fee charging means determines said amount of additional charge based on said information concerning the degree of energy savings.

17. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claims 13 , wherein said power management means holds information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and/or information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means and said fee charging means determines said amount of

additional charge based on said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and[[/or]] said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means.

18. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 14, wherein said power management means holds information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and[[/or]] information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means and said fee charging means determines said amount of additional charge based on said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said operational means and/or said information concerning the degree of energy savings of said energy saving control means.

19. (Original) A power consumption system according to any one of Claims 16 to 18, wherein comprising an automatic measurement means for preparing measurement information by adding the amount of power consumption measured by said power management means and said information concerning the degree of energy savings and for making a notification of said prepared measurement information to said fee charging means via a network.

20. (Original) A power consumption system according to Claim 19, wherein said network is a distribution line conveyance, the Internet, an exclusive line, a telephone line or a wireless means.

21. (Currently Amended) A power consumption system according to Claim 20, wherein:

said mode selectable apparatus, said power management means and said automatic measurement means are installed in the home of said user; and

said fee charging means is installed in a management center of [[a]]an electric power companyprovider.

22. (Original) A power consumption system according to Claim 21, comprising a display means installed in the home of said user, which receives said measurement information prepared by said automatic measurement means, which converts said added amount of power consumption into a fee based on said measurement information and which displays the fee.

23. (Original) A power consumption system according to any of Claims 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 18, wherein:

said energy saving control means has a human body detection means for detecting whether or not a human body is present and a security means for giving notification in order for crime prevention or for disaster prevention based on said detection result; and

said energy saving control means carries out said energy saving control based on said detection result.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) A medium for containing a program and/or data which allow a computer to carry out at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] the functions of at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] a power consumption system according to any of Claims 1 to 7[[,]] and 12 to 18 ~~and 24~~ and said medium can be processed by a computer.

26. (Currently Amended) An information assembly characterized by being a program and/or data which allow a computer to carry out at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] the functions of at least the entirety of, or a part of[[,]] a power consumption system according to any of Claims 1 to 7[[,]] and 12 to 18, ~~and 24~~.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of purchasing an appliance consuming electric power from an electric power provider comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining by a user, from an appliance provider, separate from an electric power provider, an appliance at a special purchase price;
- (b) operating by the user the appliance obtained in step (a);
- (c) measuring the value of the electric power consumed by the appliance when operating in step (b);
- (d) transmitting the measurement value of the electric power consumed in step (c) to a computer database;
- (e) accumulating in the database the amount of power measured in step (c);

(f) charging the user by the electric power provider a predetermined fee for calculated based on the amount of power accumulated in step (e) at a higher rate than a conventional rate charged by the electric power provider for consumed electricity; and

(g) providing, by the electric power provider, a portion of the calculated fee charged to the user in step (f) to the separate appliance provider to offset the special purchase price in step (a).

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 in which step (a) includes obtaining, from the appliance provider, the appliance at the special purchase price that is lower than a conventional purchase price of the appliance; and

step (f) includes charging the user the predetermined fee for the amount of power accumulated in step (e) at a higher rate than a conventional rate charged by the electric power provider for consumed electricity.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 in which step (c) includes installing a power management unit at the location of the appliance operating in step (b) to measure the power consumed by the appliance, and

step (g) includes providing another portion of the calculated fee charged to the user to an installer of the power measurement unit.

30. (New) The method of claim 27 in which step (c) includes measuring the value of the electric power consumed by the appliance, when operating in step (b), separately from power consumed by other appliances being operated by the user.